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DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1, 7, 9-22 are presented for examination, wherein claims 10-20 are withdrawn. Claims 2-6, 8 are cancelled.
2. The examiner cancels claims 10-20 to put the application in condition for allowance.
3. The Objection to the specification is withdrawn as a result of the applicant's amendment to the abstract.
4. The 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection to claims 1, 7, 9 and 21-22 are withdrawn as a result of the applicant's amendment to claim 1 and submission of the March 26, 2009 37 C.F.R. § 1.132 declaration.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

5. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Nicolas Brentlinger on September 28, 2009.

The application has been amended as follows: Claims 10-20 are cancelled.

Allowable Subject Matter

6. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: none of the art of record teaches the ceramic powder system of claim 1, wherein the solvent is in the newly claimed range of 50 to 70 parts by weight (claim 1, line 12), where the applicant declares said range provides unexpected results where the characteristics of "hanging paste," "stacking

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precision,” and “sheet erosion” become useful within the claimed range (declaration, pp.3-4).

The unexpected results of having a solvent in the claimed range is the tackiness of the viscosity provides an absence of “hanging of paste,” which occurs when the paste hangs over the edges of electrodes, and hinders the performance of the electrodes. Further, tables 11-20 illustrate an improved “stacking precision” and “sheet erosion” within the instantly claimed solvent range.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

Conclusion

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to YOSHITOSHI TAKEUCHI whose telephone number is (571) 270-5828. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 9:30-3:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner’s supervisor, Dr. Roy King can be reached on (571) 272-1244. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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